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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040808-5108

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hiroyuki ABE et al.

U.S. Application No.: 09/819,977 — Group Art Unit: 2878

Filed: March 29, 2001 — Examiner: Unknown

For: PROCESS END POINT DETECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD, POLISHING APPARATUS, SEMI-CONDUCTOR DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD, AND RECORDING MEDIUM RECORDED SIGNAL PROCESSING PROGRAM

OIPE JC152 SEP 21 2001 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of each listed document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a language other than English.

a. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 10-150963. The relevance of this document is shown in the English-language abstract.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "Prior Art". If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) PTO Form 1449 Page 1 of 1	Attorney Docket No. 040808-5108	Application No.: 09/819,977
	Applicants: Hiroyuki ABE et al.	
	Filing Date: March 29, 2001	Group Art Unit: 2871

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES	NO
		2000-040680	Feb. 8, 2000	Japan			w/abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.